



Association of China and Mongolia International Schools

ACADEMIC and CULTURAL ENRICHMENT (ACE)

CHARTER AND GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING

Regional Representatives

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Chinese New Year Cards Challenge

Experimental Music Composition

Student Film Festival

Digital Art Competition

Cultural Convention

MS Math Olympiad

HS Math Olympiad

MUN Events

Expectations of Member Schools Regarding ACE

Schools that are currently comprehensive members of ACAMIS are entitled to participate in ACE. Members are encouraged to:

- Appoint a volunteer staff member to the role of ACE Representative (See role below)
- Support the school's ACE representative by attending the ACE Annual General Meeting at the Spring Leadership Conference where planning for the next year is done
- Host an ACE event within a three-year rotation
- Send student groups to participate in academic or cultural events.

Host School Expectations

The Host School is expected to care for the safety and security of all participating students as if they were their own. ACAMIS events that involve a visit or stay at an ACAMIS member school are considered to be field trips by the participating school. Therefore, these events come under the rules and guidelines of each sending school. To limit host school liability, it is the responsibility of each participating school to verify that all participants from their school are covered adequately with accident and travel insurance as required by law. While at the event students are subject by advance written agreement with students and parents to follow ACAMIS rules as well as their own school's rules. During the event ACAMIS rules take precedence.

Inclusiveness

ACAMIS is a membership organization that is inclusive in all of its operations, regardless of race, color, religion, ethnicity, ancestry, marital status, gender or sexual orientation.

Transgender Statement

ACAMIS supports the opportunity for transgender students to participate and compete in athletics and all other activities. Our values are grounded in a concern for each student's unique needs and an appreciation of the importance of feeling that one belongs. Our association therefore prioritizes the active inclusion of all students at all levels of sport and activities, including transgender students. ACAMIS acknowledges that transgender and nonbinary students face unique challenges with respect to feelings of belonging and identity that are different to those of their cisgender peers. We believe that restricting their participation in inter-school events only exacerbates a sense of isolation and affects self-image. Our clear expectation is that all students are treated equally and with dignity and respect.

Sexual Harassment

ACAMIS is committed to maintaining a professional and collegial work environment in which all individuals are treated with dignity and respect. Each individual has the right to work in a professional atmosphere which prohibits discriminatory practices, including sexual harassment. Sexual harassment, whether verbal, physical or arising from work assignments out of the office, at ACAMIS-sponsored functions and events, or elsewhere, is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Membership

Schools that are currently comprehensive members of ACAMIS are eligible to participate in ACE events.

Contents:

1. [Introduction](#)
2. [Purpose of ACE](#)
3. [Philosophy of ACE Participation](#)
4. [Role of ACE Representative](#)
5. [Cultural Events Calendar](#)
6. [Duration of Events](#)
7. [Communication with schools](#)
8. [Expectations of host school](#)
9. [Expectations for Participating Schools](#)
10. [Event Format](#)

[Appendix 1](#) ACE Charter

Forms for Students

[Appendix 2](#) Student Participation Agreement

[Appendix 3](#) Rules for ACAMIS Events

Forms for Coaches/Chaperones

[Appendix 4](#) Sample Registration Form

[Appendix 5](#) ACAMIS Visiting Schools Evaluation Form

[Appendix 6](#) ACAMIS Event Budget Summary

[Appendix 7](#) ACAMIS Event Follow-Up Form

[Appendix 8](#) ACAMIS Incident Report Form

1. Introduction

The following guidelines pertain to hosting ACAMIS cultural events:

High School

Middle School

Primary

Cultural Convention
'Art for Show'
CNY Cards Challenge
Chess

Math Olympiad
Virtual Film Festival

Cultural Convention
'Art for Show'
CNY Cards Challenge
Chess

Robotics
Math Olympiad
Virtual Film Festival
Model United Nations
Literature Quiz

Arts Day
'Art for Show'
CNY Cards Challenge

Robotics

Further events are referred to as 'additional' or 'invitational' events. Guidelines for these are set by individual schools and distributed to participating schools not less than four weeks prior to the event. Descriptions of each event can be found at:

<https://www.acamis.org/student-activities/ace-events>

2. Purpose of ACE

ACE is designed to provide a forum for ACAMIS member schools' Creative Arts directors, academic teachers, and other interested parties to better meet the aims and purposes of ACAMIS regarding academic, cultural, and creative arts education. The aims and objectives of ACE shall be to:

- Give students the opportunity to engage in creative experiences in different environments.
- Allow students to participate in a variety of non-athletic enrichment activities.
- Provide students a safe environment in which to express themselves through academic and cultural activities.
- Encourage collaboration among member schools, students, and teachers.
- Allow students to experience being a part of a collaborative process.
- Give students the opportunity to travel with their peers.
- Foster interaction with students from other schools and strengthen or develop friendships.

3. ACAMIS ACE Philosophy

The ACAMIS Academic and Cultural Enrichment is focused on participating and learning from unique structures and events that lead to the growth and development of students (and staff) in ACAMIS member schools. It is important that each ACAMIS member school, including the Head of School and the wider school community recognise and agree that:

- ACE participation is first and foremost for the academic, personal, social and emotional benefits that it can provide.
- The satisfaction at the end of the event comes from knowing you've tried your best and that participation as well as winning or losing can be an important learning experience.
- Success comes in different ways for different teams and winning is not the only success factor.
- An ethic of fair play should be a cultural norm in ACAMIS competitions and events. A 'Winning at all costs' approach is not appropriate in an ACAMIS event.
- Rules should be viewed as an important part of maintaining fairness in a competition. Coaches, chaperones and participants should not look to exploit rules, but rather always play within the spirit of the rule.

- The opponent is not the enemy. They offer us an opportunity to learn and to demonstrate our ability, determination and class.
- We treat everyone with respect. This includes our own team members, the opponents, officials, and spectators.
- Coaches and spectators should remain positive and supportive of the participants. Criticising a referee or judge or celebrating a mistake of the opposition does not contribute to the growth of our athletes. We celebrate our successes and learn from our mistakes.
- Participants should be encouraged to understand that it is a privilege to represent their school and to do so in the best manner possible both in and out of competition/event.
- Coaches and chaperones have a responsibility towards the welfare of the student-athletes in their care. In particular, coaches should:
 - a. be a positive role model with regard to their behaviour towards their participants, other schools' participants, parents, coaches, chaperones and officials
 - b. be an ambassador for their school through their behaviour and actions as a coach
 - c. be responsible for, and maintain, the health and safety of their participants whilst in their care
 - d. find an appropriate balance between the desire to win and the need to ensure that all participants gain a positive learning experience.
- ACE Representatives have an overall responsibility for supporting and developing this philosophy across their school.
- ACE Representatives, as representatives of ACAMIS, should communicate the importance of supporting this philosophy above any interest of their own school's desire to win.

4. Role of School ACE Representatives

The role of the ACE Representative is to serve as a liaison between the ACAMIS organization, specifically ACE, and their school in order to be aware of opportunities for students and to facilitate communication about ACE activities and appropriate staff representatives. The responsibilities of the ACE Representative are as follows:

- Communicate the role and responsibilities of ACE to the faculty and staff at the school.
- Facilitate advanced planning and disseminate important information regarding ACE events to the appropriate parties within their school.
- Advocate for ACE within their school by getting administrative, staff and parent support to host and send students to ACE events.
- Communicate directly with both the appointed Regional ACE Representative and the ACE Chair.
- Assist teams of teachers hosting ACE events by providing appropriate communication and documents (NOTE: ACE Representatives are not expected to organize and lead ACE events at the school).
- Work with the Regional ACE Representative to encourage collaboration among regional ACE members.
- All ACE Representatives are strongly encouraged to attend the annual ACE general meeting during the ACAMIS Spring **Leadership** Conference in order to foster further collaboration and innovation among member schools

5. Spectator Guidelines

Host school students, staff and parents should be encouraged to attend ACAMIS Events to enliven spirits of participation for everyone. In this age of social media, schools should take special steps to remind students of their responsibilities when using social media and what they post. Derogatory statements of any kind about schools, participants, chaperones, coaches, and referees are not acceptable. Anyone found posting offensive messages or video clips will be removed from the tournament and referred to the appropriate school representatives as soon as possible. We also cannot allow spectator behaviour to control the event. To avoid an event being controlled by the audience and allow participants to enjoy the event, despite any upset caused by a negative posting, the tournament should proceed to conclusion. The incident will be recorded, and the appropriate school will be informed of the details for their action with the offender.

6. Cultural Events Calendar

The Cultural Events’ dates are established and confirmed by the designated ACE representative of each comprehensive member school at the ACE Annual General Meeting held at the ACAMIS Spring Leadership Conference, **the first weekend in March**. Robotics dates are determined by the Robotics Committee.

The Cultural Events Calendar is as follows:

Date	Venue	Face-to-Face Event Name	Grade Level	Region if applicable
Nov. 16	NIS	HS Math Olympiad	G11-12	All
Nov. 23-24	BCIS	ACAMIS Visual Arts Event	G9-12	North
Nov. 23-24	Concordia	ACAMIS Visual Arts Event	TBC	Central
Mar. 01-02	XLIS	ACAMIS MUN	G7-12	All
Feb. 22	ISNS	Secondary Chess Tournament	TBC	South
Mar. 15	SIAS	MS Math Olympiad	G6-10	All
Mar. 22-23	SWIS	Performing Arts Music Event	Secondary	South
Apr. 11-13	IST	Conference for the Arts	Teachers	All
Date	Organiser	Digital Event Name	Grade Level	
Sept - Jan	NIS	Experimental Film Festival	MS + HS	
Sept - Jan	Concordia	Digital Art Competition	Whole School	
Nov. - Jan	Keystone	Chinese Lunar New Year Card Ch.	Whole School	
Dec - Feb	SCIS	Experimental Music	Whole + Teachers	
			updated August 8, 2024	

7. Duration of Events

Cultural Conventions

Day One (Thursday):

- Participants travel to host school.
- Welcome / Orientation events scheduled on Thursday afternoon/evening.

Day Two (Friday):

- Workshops/Rehearsals etc. (Day)

Day Three (Saturday):

- Workshops/Rehearsals etc. continue. (Day)
- Performances and Presentations (Evening)

Day Four (Sunday):

-Participants travel home

Other ACE Events

Day One (Thursday):

-Participants travel to host school.

-Welcome / Orientation events scheduled on Thursday afternoon/evening.

Day Two (Friday):

-Competition/games etc. (Day)

Day Three (Saturday):

- Competition/games etc. (Day)

- Presentations (Evening)

Day Four (Sunday):

-Participants travel home

NB. Some ACE Events may only be scheduled for one or two days and may be specific to cities. E.G. Elementary Art Day (Beijing and Tianjin Schools).

8. Communication

Communication with schools is essential for the smooth running and preparation of ACAMIS ACE Events. Communication should be conducted via email or fax or by phone when necessary.

Communication regarding Cultural Events should be made not less than three (3) months prior to the event date.

This communication should include:

- Registration Form (Appendix 2: registration form)
- Request for workshop leaders
- Event format
- Event itinerary
- ACAMIS Code of Conduct for student/parent signature
- Staff accommodation information
- Transport arrangements
- Clearly stated deadlines for return of registration forms
- Other relevant information.

9. Expectations for the Host School

The following are items that are expected to be provided by the host school for all ACAMIS ACE Events:

T-Shirts

All Cultural Event participants should be provided with an event T-shirt with information including but not exclusive to:

- Host School name
- Event date
- Participating schools
- Design of T-shirts is at the discretion of the host school.

Transport

Transport should be provided to and from airport / train / ferry station for all visiting participants.

Transport should also be provided to and from the event venue and accommodations, depending on the host school location. This may be by public transport, private car or taxi.

Participant Numbers

The maximum number of participants per school is set at the discretion of the host school.

Programme

A program of the event should be provided for middle and high school events. The program should include but not be exclusive to:

- Welcome message
- ACAMIS rules
- Event itinerary
- Event format
- Participating schools
- Participants' name list
- Map of host venue
- Emergency contact details

Food / Beverages

Breakfast should be provided by the host family.

Lunch should be provided for all participants by the host school on each day of the event.

Evening meals should be provided by the host family with the exception of Cultural Conventions day three when dinner must be provided by the host school.

Drinks should be made available at all times during the event.

Accommodations

Depending upon size of event, the host school may offer to provide home stay housing to all visiting participants and staff. Visiting schools may choose to arrange their own hotel accommodation for participants and/or staff at their own expense.

Staff Meeting

A staff meeting should be scheduled for day one of the event to discuss any relevant matters with all visiting staff.

Staff Dinner or Breakfast

A staff dinner should be provided for all visiting staff on day two or three of the event.

Staff Hospitality Lounge

Where possible an area for staff to relax (away from the event area) and get a hot beverage should be provided for the duration of the event.

Participant Information Package

All participants should be provided with an information package which includes:

- Name badge
- Host school address (in English and Chinese)
- Program
- Accommodation information
- Transport information
- ACAMIS T-Shirt
- Catering information
- Emergency contact details

Staff Information Package

All staff should be provided with an information package which includes:

- Name badge
- Host school address (in English and Chinese)
- Program
- Accommodation information
- Transport information
- ACAMIS T-Shirt
- Catering information including staff dinner information
- Emergency contact details
- Staff meeting agenda

Medical Support

First Aid station with basic medical supplies such as ice and bandages must be provided by fully qualified first aid staff at all times during the event.

School Banners

School banners (in appropriate school colors) should be displayed for the duration of the event. (Appendix 3. School banner colors.)

Opening Event

The host school should take the opportunity to showcase aspects of their Arts program.

Equipment and materials

The host school is expected to provide all required art materials, sheet music, non-transportable instruments and equipment. E.G. Piano, kit, amplifiers etc.

10. Expectations for Participating Schools

Each visiting school is expected to provide at least one workshop leader for the duration of the Cultural Conventions.

The staff to student ratio of visiting schools should be one to ten.

Visiting staff and students are expected to be in attendance at events at all times.

Visiting schools must meet all deadlines specified by the host school. If these are not met the host school has the right to decline entry to events or workshops.

Payment / Participation Fees

Payment of participation fees for all events is to be made to the host school. Payment arrangements for fees are at the discretion of the host school and are intended only to cover hosting costs. All payments should be made at least a week before departing for an event.

Participation fees vary according to the type and length of an event, but no more than 800 RMB per participant may be charged for up to three days. Events longer than three days may require a supplement of 250 RMB per day. This does not apply to student trips/excursions where cost estimates will be shared before sign-up. Host schools should perform a cost analysis for events and include the cost in the announcement of the event to all member schools along with the appropriate registration forms found in the addendum of these guidelines.

The participation fee covers the costs for workshop presenters, meals, referees, judges, banners, awards and other items. Costs for transportation or accommodation (when hotels are used) are normally borne by the participant.

11. Event Format

Cultural Conventions:

Cultural Convention format is at the discretion of the host school. The format may include specialty and elective workshops in performing and/or visual arts.
(Some of this information still needs to be collected.)

Chess Events

Model United Nations

Math Olympiad

Literature Day

Primary Art Day

A one-day event for Beijing /Tianjin schools (or equivalent elsewhere) Students attend 2 workshops in either/or visual and performing arts.

APPENDIX 1: ACADEMIC AND CULTURAL ENRICHMENT (ACE) CHARTER

1. Name & Parent Organization

The name of this activity group shall be Association of China and Mongolia International Schools Academic and Cultural Enrichment, hereinafter referred to as ACE. ACE is an organization under the Association of China and Mongolia International Schools (ACAMIS) and is in all matters subject to the constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations. As an activity group within ACAMIS, ACE itself has no independent or legal status. Any and all decisions are therefore subject to review by the Executive Director and the approval of the ACAMIS Board of Directors.

2. Purpose

ACE is designed to provide a forum for ACAMIS member schools' Creative Arts directors, academic teachers, and other interested parties to better meet the aims and purposes of ACAMIS in regard to academic, cultural, and creative arts education. The aims and objectives of the ACE shall be to:

- Give students the opportunity to experience new endeavors.
- Allow students to participate in a variety of non-athletic enrichment activities.
- Allow students a safe environment in which to express themselves.
- Encourage collaboration among member schools, students, and teachers while allowing students to experience the thrill of being a part of a collaborative process.
- Give students the opportunity to travel.
- Foster interaction with students from other schools and develop bonds of friendship.

3. Membership

Schools that are currently members of ACAMIS are considered members of ACE. Members shall be encouraged to:

- Designate an ACE representative who does **not** also hold the position of Athletic Director or ACAMIS Athletics Coordinator to communicate and coordinate ACE activities with appropriate school staff.
- Support each school's appointed ACE representative's attendance at the ACAMIS Annual General Meeting held during the Spring Leadership Conference.
- Host at least one event every three years when asked.
- Send participating groups to cultural conventions and other ACE events.

4. Dues

There will be no dues outside of the ACAMIS Annual Membership Fee.

5. Officer

A. ACE Chair: The ACE chair will be nominated by members at the AGM and appointed by the ACAMIS Board.

B. Regional Representatives: Regional representatives will be determined by ACE representatives at the AGM. Regional representatives support the ACE Chair in communicating and facilitating regional ACE events.

6. Meetings

An Annual Meeting of ACE shall be held each year at the ACAMIS Spring Leadership Conference. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the ACAMIS Board of Directors provided Member Schools are notified of such a meeting not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting date.

7. Voting

All decisions concerning ACE will be by a majority vote of those member representatives who attend the ACE AGM. All votes shall be designed to provide the ACAMIS Board of Directors with recommendations of an advisory, non-binding nature. Suggested changes to the Charter will be submitted to the Executive Director for consideration before being reviewed and approved by the ACAMIS Board of Directors.

8. Amendments to Articles

These articles may be amended or altered by a simple majority vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting as long as such amendments do not alter Article 5. Changes should be proposed and voted on at the Spring meeting of ACE representatives and then considered by the Board of Directors at their May meeting in order to be placed into effect for the next school year.

9. Divisions

There will be:

- I. A Pan China Division for High/Secondary Schools.
- II. A Northern, Southern and Central Division for Middle Schools.
- III. Other Pan China Cultural Events.
- IV. Other Regional Middle School Cultural Events.

10. Event Sizes

The maximum number of participants per school is set at the discretion of the host school.

11. Event Fees

Payment of entry fees for all tournaments/events:

- A maximum of 800 RMB per participant may be charged for events up to three days in duration.
- The total event hosting costs are divided among participating schools.
- Payment arrangements for fees are at the discretion of the host school.

For further information or inquiries about hosting or these guidelines, contact:

caleb.doyel@swis.cn.

For information about ACAMIS or membership, contact Operations Manager, Alexa Wang, operations@acamis.org.

APPENDIX 3: RULES FOR ACAMIS EVENTS

1. The use of tobacco, drinking of alcohol, or use of illegal drugs will not be allowed during travel or while in the host city during the period of time covered by the ACAMIS activity. *(Consequence: suspension from immediate and further participation and student's principal notified. A second offence in the same school year will result in exclusion in all ACAMIS events for one school year including the same event the following year.)*
2. When students are in a hotel, they may not leave the hotel without permission of their own chaperone/coach. *(Consequence: disciplinary action at the discretion of the lead chaperone.)*
3. Students are expected to be in areas designated by the event chaperones at all times. Students are not permitted to enter hotel rooms other than the one to which they were assigned by their home school. Students wishing to meet and mix with students assigned to other rooms may do so only in public areas as designated by chaperones. *(Consequence: disciplinary action at the discretion of the activity organizer and lead chaperone.)*
4. Students are required to return to their assigned rooms no later than 10pm; no guests from other rooms are permitted. Curfew ends in the morning at the time hotel breakfast begins or when the tournament director indicates. *(Consequence: suspension from immediate and further participation and student's Principal notified. A second offence in the same school year will result in exclusion from all ACAMIS events for one school year including the same event the following year.)*
5. As with any field trip, participating schools assume full responsibility to oversee the appropriate allocation of students to hotel rooms, taking into consideration factors such as relative ages, gender orientation, and friendships, including possible romantic relationships. Any unusual circumstances or problems that occur during the stay in the host city will be reported as soon as possible to the host school and lead chaperone/coach.
6. In the event of any accident or injury the lead chaperone/coach has permission to deal with the situation. Should they be unable to contact the parents or guardians, they may make emergency decisions on the recommendation of medical practitioners. The parent's signature below grants permission to the lead chaperone/coach to make such emergency decisions.

We have read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules that are stated above.

Signature of student's parent/guardian

Signature of student

Date

To participate in an ACAMIS event, each participant must complete this participation form and **give it before departure to their chaperone** who will have the forms available while at the host school.

APPENDIX 4: MODEL REGISTRATION FORM

ACAMIS CULTURAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM (Host School Name) (Event date) (School address and contact details)

General Contact Information

Name of participating school:	
Address of participating school:	
Name of Head of School:	
Convention contact person:	
Email address:	
Phone number:	

Student Information

Total number of students attending:	
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	Name	Age	Gender	Nationality	Specialty Area (including any instrument played)
1.					
Elective Choice 1:		Elective Choice 2:			Elective Choice 3:
Any special dietary requirements?					
Any special medical needs?					
T-shirt size: <i>(please tick)</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> M	<input type="checkbox"/> L	<input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL
Name of Home Stay partner:					

	Name	Age	Gender	Nationality	Specialty Area (including any instrument played)
1.					
Elective Choice 1:		Elective Choice 2:			Elective Choice 3:
Any special dietary requirements?					
Any special medical needs?					
T-shirt size: (please tick)		<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> M	<input type="checkbox"/> L	<input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL
Name of Home Stay partner:					

	Name	Age	Gender	Nationality	Specialty Area (including any instrument played)
1.					
Elective Choice 1:		Elective Choice 2:			Elective Choice 3:
Any special dietary requirements?					
Any special medical needs?					
T-shirt size: (please tick)		<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> M	<input type="checkbox"/> L	<input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> XXL
Name of Home Stay partner:					

Questions:	
1. Arrival time, flight / train / ferry number?	
2. Departure time, flight / train/ ferry number?	
3. Staff housing preference: hotel, or making own arrangements?	
4. Staff T-shirt sizes:	
5. Additional questions and concerns?	
6. Attending staff members names:	

Send to: caleb.doyel@swis.cn

APPENDIX 5: ACAMIS VISITING SCHOOL EVALUATION SHEET

Date: _____ **Host:** _____ **Event:** _____

Your evaluations will help to further improve the quality of such events.

Information:

The information provided by the host school, both prior to and at the event	Worked Well	Possible Improvements

Hotel:

The housing arrangement in terms of suitability for visiting teams	Worked Well	Possible Improvement

Transport:

The transport provided by the host school, both to & from airport & to and from event facilities	Worked Well	Possible Improvement

Facilities:

The facilities used for the event	Worked Well	Possible Improvement

Meals, water etc:

The quality of meals, snacks etc provided for competitors/coaches	Worked Well	Possible Improvement

Events / officiating:

The quality of events and the respective quality of officiating	Worked Well	Possible Improvement

General Comments:

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Your Name and School:	
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APPENDIX 8: ACAMIS INCIDENT REPORT

In the event of a disciplinary matter or student accident or injury, it is important that a report detailing the circumstances be recorded and a copy sent to the ACE Chair and the ACAMIS Executive Office. This will help to protect all parties should the incident be contested afterward.

Host School	Name of Event	
Date of Event	Date and Time of Incident	
Description of the Incident		
Action Taken		
Who was contacted		
Printed Name of Person Filing Report	Signature of Person Filing Report	Date

Send to: caleb.doyel@swis.cn